

Pocahontas Times.

JOHN E. CAMPBELL,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Huntersville, W. Va.
January 14, 1892.

The great treasury vault at Wash- ton covers more than a quarter of an acre and is twelve feet deep. Recently there was \$90,000,000 in silver stored there, an amount that weighed 4,000 tons and would load 175 freight cars.

Four different mountain peaks in Idaho are from 13 to 23 feet lower, by actual measurement, than they were 15 years ago, and it is believed that this settling is going on with many others. The idea is that quick sands have undermined them.

While workman was repairing an outbuilding in Winchester, Ind., a few days ago, he found under one of the sills an old tin can contain- ing about \$1,600 in gold coin, most- ly in \$2.50 and five dollar pieces. No one knows to whom the treasure belonged.

A courier from the Cheyenne- Arapahoe reservation states that the Messiah craze has broken out among the Indians. Left Hand, head, chief of the Arapahoes, and Old Crow and Whirlwind, chiefs of Cheyennes, have gathered a thou- sand Indians about them among the interior hills, and for many days and nights have kept the dance up continually, declaring they will not stop until the Saviour ar- rives.

An interesting little war story has Governor Jones, of Alabama for its hero. At the time Gordon was resisting Sherman's advance. Jones, then a staff captain, was de- livering a message from his chief when he saw a little child, clad on- ly in night clothes, hiding in terror behind a frame house in the direct range of the bullets from each army. Jones rode forward, took the child on his horse and galloped back with her to the Confederate line. When the Union forces saw the act they ceased firing, and there was an impromptu cessation of hostilities until the child had been carried to a point of safety.—Charleston News and Courier.

In a freight train which passed through Hannibal on the St. Louis, Keokuk and Northwestern line from Burlington to St. Louis were the celebrated Walker twin steers. These cattle were registered at the Chicago exchange as the largest in the world. They were raised in Jasper county, Mo., by Mr. Walker. Mr. Walker values them very high- ly, and will not ship them over a railroad unless the railroad insures them. The railroad company had them insured for \$10,000. They are 6 years of age, 12 feet 6 inches long, 14 feet around the chest or heart, 3 feet 2 inches across the hips. Their aggregate weight is 8,040 pounds.—Cor. St. Louis Globe-Dem- ocrat.

Old Memories Recalled.

After the adjournment of the Un- ited States court at Danville, Va., recently, there was a little scene which was not on the docket. A one armed old Confederate had been found guilty of illegal distill- ing and was sentenced to one month imprisonment and a fine of \$100. Judge John Paul, who was also an old Confederate ordered the marshal to bring Garrett Mor- rison, the one armed veteran, into the courtroom. Presently the judge and prisoner stood face to face. As he touched the empty sleeve tears came into the eyes of the judge, who said: "Come back here tomorrow and I will consider your case. We old boys are getting scarce, and you cannot go to jail.—Cor. Richmond Times.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.
LATE MATTERS OF INTEREST PAR- TAINING TO OUR GOVERNMENT.

[Reported for THE TIMES by our regu- lar correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Speaker pro tempore McMillin, who was elected without opposition to pre- side over the House until Speaker Crisp who is still confined to his room by the grip, shall be able to resume his duties, presides like a veteran, and is complime ted on all sides for the ease with which he has taken up the honorous duties of presiding over the House.

Notwithstanding the unprece- dented appropriations of the billion dollar Congress, the cry for deficien- cy appropriations has already be- gan. The list is headed by Porter, of the census bureau, who, through the Treasury department has asked for a deficiency appropriation of \$1,000,000, to complete the work of that bureau, and there are those who doubt whether that amount will be sufficient, if Porter is to be allowed to do it in his own way. He may get the money, but it is not certain; and in any event he will probably be asked some puzzling questions as to how he has spent some of the \$6,400,000 previously appropriated for the Census.

The attacks on the McKinley tariff law in the House resemble the firing of sharp-shooters. Bills have been introduced placing the following articles on the free list: Jute, jute bagging, iron ties, bind- ing twine, lumber, tin plate, salt, agricultural implements, wool, coal and iron ore; and bills have been introduced to repeal the sugar bounty clause of the law, and so of the reciprocity clause as gives the President authority to restore the duty upon certain products of countries which fail to make recip- rocity treaties with the United States. These bills will all go to the ways and means committee, which will decide which of them shall be pressed.

Representative Mills, who has gone to Texas, has been granted an indefinite leave of absence by the House. The principal object of Mr. Mills in going home at this time is to regain his health, but it is probable that while there he may do some talking about the Texas Senatorship.

A meeting of the Executive Com- mittee of the National Association of Democratic Clubs has been called for Jan. 20, by Representa- W. L. Wilson, of West Virginia, who is chairman of the committee, and it is desired that every mem- ber shall be present or represented by proxy, as important matters will be considered.

The democratic vacancy on the Interstate Commerce Commission has been given to Judge W. M. Lindsey, of Kentucky, a gentleman of whom nothing but good is known and the republican vacancy to J. W. McDill, of Iowa, who has been Con- gressman, Senator, Judge and sev- eral other things with official sala- ries, Col. W. R. Morrison, whose commission expired Dec. 31 has been re appointed.

The silver question has already shown a ready disposition to bob up serenely in Congress at any and all times. Several bills have been introduced in the Senate providing for free coinage, and although there has been only one "bill" day in the House, four bills of the same sort were introduced, besides several others having a more or less direct bearing on silver. One of them provides for the repeal of the pur- chasing clause of the present silver law. Senator Stewart maintains that there is a law already in exist- ence authorizing the free coinage of silver, enacted in 1837 and never repealed, and he offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary committee to inquire into the matter and re- port whether he is right or wrong. Senator Morrill delivered a very a-

ble and conservative speech this week against the unlimited free coinage of silver, in answer to Sen- ator Stewart's recent speech.

The Harrison men are shouting "I told you so," because of a slight attack of nausea that Mr. Blaine had this week, and the present in- dications are that a concerted at- tempt is to be made to drive Mr. Blaine from the Presidential field, using his health as the principal weapon. It may succeed too, as Mr. Blaine is a monomaniac on that subject, and has been ever since that notorious sunstroke, a way back in the seventies.

Andrew Jackson's birthday is being fitly celebrated to day by the local democrats.

A joint resolution authorizes the Secretary of the Navy to charter a vessel to carry the grain which has been contributed for the famine- stricken Russians to that country, was adopted by the Senate, but defeated by the House. The con- stitutionality of the resolution was doubted by some of the ablest dem- ocrats in Congress.

Senator Morgan spoke yesterday in favor of his resolution directing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to procure additional information concerning the Nicaragua canal. He strongly favors the guarantee of bonds asked for by the company, but unless there is a change of sen- timent there is no probability of the bill passing the House. As one prominent member of that body puts it: "I favor the building of the canal by this Government if necessary, but am opposed to any guarantee of bonds issued by a private corporation."

THE RICHEST MAN IN W. VA.

HOW EX-SENATOR CAMDEN OF WEST VIRGINIA BECAME RICH.

The richest man in the State of West Virginia, and one of the rich- est in the United States, is ex Sen- ator Johnson N. Camden. His wealth is estimated at between \$8, 000,000 and \$10,000,000.

It was in the year 1860 when oil was first discovered in West Vir- ginia. Mr. Camden had a few acres of land in the Burning Springs dis- trict, about thirty miles north of Parkersburg. In this land Mr. Camden bored two wells. They were the second and third wells bored for oil, only one having been sunk a few weeks previous to them, and that one was only partially successful, so far as striking oil was concerned, and wholly so as regards profit, for its owner did not know what in the world to do with it. He was very much like the fellow with an elephant on his hands.

The question of saving the oil and storing it, instead of letting it ooze out and run off into the rivu- lets and streams, became one of grave concern. However, necessi- ty was the mother of invention then as now, and Senator Camden deter- mined that the product of his wells should not go to waste. His exche- quer was mighty slim at the time, but, with the assistance of some good friends, he bought a big, old flat boat and moored it to a tree on the river bank. From his two wells he troughed the oil into the boat.

In the meantime Mr. Camden had made a contract with General Sam Carnes of Boston, who was the pioneer oil refiner, to deliver 2,000 barrels at Parkersburg in bulk at the rate of 25 cents a gallon. The capacity of Mr. Camden's flat- boat was just about that amount, and the prospect of \$20,000—all his own—was to him something prodig- ious.

When his boat was full he set out for Parkersburg, thirty miles a- way, with his precious cargo. He drifted with the stream, and, after many hardships, reached his desti- nation. General Carnes was there with his empty barrels. They transferred the oil from the flatboat to the barrels with coops and pails and when the work was finished Mr. Camden received \$20,000 in cold cash. Thus was laid the founda- tion of a colossal fortune of near- ly \$10,000,000. He continued in the oil business solely for many years, and was interested, either wholly or partly, in all the subse- quent oil developments in West Virginia.—Baltimore American.

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